

THE INVENTION CLAIMED IS:

1. An impurity removal system for purifying wine removable from a wine source, comprising:

a filtered wine container defined by a collection portion and having an opening for introducing the wine to the collection portion; and

a filtration device in operable communication between the wine source and the container, such that at least a portion of the wine introduced from the wine source is in fluid communication with the filtration device prior to collection in the collection portion of the filtered wine container;

wherein, in operation, the wine is removed from the wine source, introduced to the system, passed through the filtration device and filtered wine flows into the collection portion of the filtered wine container.

2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a pressure mechanism having at least one internal fluid passageway having an wine entry portion and a filtered wine exit portion;

wherein the filtration device is in fluid communication with the internal fluid passageway between the wine entry portion and the filtered wine exit portion;

wherein, in operation, the pressure mechanism urges the wine from the wine source through the entry portion, through the filtration device, out of the exit portion, through the filtered wine container opening and into the collection portion.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein the pressure mechanism further comprises:

a gas entry opening in fluid communication with the wine source; and

a pump mechanism configured to inject gas into the wine source through the gas entry opening, thereby urging wine from the wine source into the unfiltered wine entry portion of the pressure mechanism.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein the gas is air, and wherein the pump mechanism is a powered air pump.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the air pump is configured to draw air from an area outside the pressure mechanism.

6. The system of claim 3, further comprising an actuation mechanism in operable communication with the pump mechanism and configured to at least one of power the pump mechanism "ON" and power the pump mechanism "OFF".

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the actuation mechanism further comprises a push-button assembly engageable and actuatable by a user.

8. The system of claim 2, wherein the wine source is a container with a neck portion, wherein the pressure mechanism further comprises a neck-engaging portion configured to frictionally engage the neck portion of the wine source container.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the neck-engaging portion engages the neck portion of the wine source container, whereby an air tight seal is provided between an internal portion of the wine source container and an outside atmosphere.

10. The system of claim 8, wherein a surface of the neck-engaging portion includes a seal element extending at least partially around the surface, wherein the seal element is configured to seal the neck-engaging portion with the neck portion of the wine source container in an air tight manner.

11. The system of claim 8, wherein the neck-engaging portion includes an internal fluid passageway having an unfiltered wine entry portion and in fluid communication with the internal fluid passageway of the pressure mechanism, thereby providing fluid communication between the wine source container and the pressure mechanism internal fluid passageway.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the filtration device is positioned within the internal fluid passageway of the neck-engaging portion.

13. The system of claim 11, further comprising a dip tube having an internal fluid passageway with an unfiltered wine entry portion, the internal fluid passageway of the dip tube in fluid communication with the internal fluid passageway of the neck-engaging portion.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the dip tube is removably connectable to the neck-engaging portion.

15. The system of claim 2, wherein the pressure mechanism further comprises an exit tube having an internal fluid passageway with a filtered wine entry portion, the internal fluid passageway of the exit tube in fluid communication with the filtered wine exit portion.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the exit tube is shaped so as to be positionable above the opening of the filtered wine collection container.

17. The system of claim 8, wherein the pressure mechanism further comprises a pressure mechanism housing, the neck-engaging portion removably attachable to the pressure mechanism housing.

18. The system of claim 2, wherein the pressure mechanism and the filtration device are positioned within a housing having a wall, the wine entry portion comprising an entry opening extending through the wall of the housing and in fluid communication with the internal fluid passageway, and the filtered wine exit portion comprising an exit opening extending through a wall of the housing and in fluid communication with the internal fluid passageway.

19. The system of claim 2, wherein the filtration device includes a filter medium configured to remove at least one impurity from the wine introduced from the wine source container.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein the filtration device further includes a filter housing in operable communication with the filter medium, wherein the filter housing is sized and shaped so as to be removably engaged within the internal passageway of the pressure mechanism.

21. The system of claim 19, wherein the filter medium is activated carbon.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the activated carbon is positioned within a holder device configured to allow the wine to pass therethrough.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the holder device is at least one of a bag, a disk, a pouch, a fabric container and a container with perforated walls.

24. The system of claim 19, wherein the filter medium is a solid block of activated carbon.

25. The system of claim 19, wherein the filter medium comprises a plurality of layers.

26. The system of claim 1, wherein the container is a carafe.

27. The system of claim 1, wherein the impurity removed from the wine is at least one of trichloroanisole, an odor compound and a chemical compound.

28. The system of claim 1, wherein the filtration device includes a filter medium configured to remove at least one impurity from the wine removed from the wine source.

29. The system of claim 28, wherein the filtration device further includes a filter housing in operable communication with the filter medium, wherein the filter housing is sized and shaped so as to be removably engaged between the opening and the collection portion.

30. The system of claim 29, wherein the container includes a neck portion connecting the opening and the collection portion, wherein the filter housing is positioned within the neck portion for at least one of vacuum operation and pressure operation.

31. The system of claim 28, wherein the filter medium is activated carbon.

32. The system of claim 31, wherein the activated carbon is positioned within a holder device configured to allow the wine to pass therethrough.

33. The system of claim 32, wherein the holder device is at least one of a bag, a disk, a pouch, a fabric container and a container with perforated walls.

34. The system of claim 28, wherein the filter medium is a solid block of activated carbon.

35. The system of claim 28, wherein the filter medium comprises a plurality of layers.

36. The system of claim 1, further comprising a vacuum mechanism in operable communication with the collection portion of the container and configured to draw the wine introduced into the opening through the filtration device and into the collection portion.

37. The system of claim 36, wherein the filtration device includes a filter housing having a filter housing seal in operable communication with the filter housing and configured to sealingly engage the filter housing in the container.

38. The system of claim 36, wherein the vacuum mechanism is in communication with a vacuum orifice extending through a container wall and into the collection portion of the container.

39. The system of claim 38, wherein the vacuum mechanism is a hand pump having a handle portion and a vacuum tube connected to the vacuum orifice, such that, when the handle portion is actuated, a vacuum is pulled on the collection portion of the container, thereby drawing the introduced wine through the filtration device.

40. A method of removing an impurity from wine, comprising the steps of:
(a) introducing wine to a filtration device having a filter medium;
(b) filtering, by the filter medium, the wine as it passes through the filtration device; and
(c) collecting the filtered wine in a container.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein the filter medium is activated carbon.
42. The method of claim 41, wherein the activated carbon is positioned within a holder device configured to allow the wine to pass therethrough.
43. The method of claim 42, wherein the holder device is at least one of a bag, a disk, a pouch, a fabric container and a container with perforated walls.
44. The method of claim 40, wherein the filter medium is a solid block of activated carbon.
45. The method of claim 40, wherein the filter medium comprises a plurality of layers.
46. The method of claim 40, further comprising the step of drawing the wine through the filter medium using at least one of a vacuum mechanism and a pressure mechanism.
47. The method of claim 40, wherein the impurity removed from the wine is at least one of trichloroanisole, an odor compound and a chemical compound.
48. An apparatus for removing an impurity from wine for use in connection with a wine source at least partially filled with wine, the apparatus comprising a filtration device in operable communication with the wine source and having a filter medium configured to filter wine introduced from the wine source, such that at least a portion of the wine introduced from the wine source is in fluid communication with the filtration device; wherein the filter medium is capable of removing at least one impurity from the wine introduced from the wine source.
49. The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the filter medium is activated carbon.
50. The apparatus of claim 49, wherein the activated carbon is positioned within a holder device configured to allow the wine to pass therethrough.

51. The apparatus of claim 50, wherein the holder device is at least one of a bag, a disk, a pouch, a fabric container and a container with perforated walls.

52. The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the filter medium is a solid block of activated carbon.

53. The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the filter medium comprises a plurality of layers.

54. The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the wine is drawn through the filtration device by at least one of a vacuum mechanism and a pressure mechanism.